

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system, comprising: a first filter in a path for an air flow; a first spray outlet for providing a first spray into the air flow before the first filter to enable the first spray to be drawn along the path onto a first surface of the first filter; and a second filter in the path for the air flow downstream from the first filter; wherein the first spray has droplets sized to combine with droplets of a contaminant to form combined droplets in the air flow before the first filter to assist the combined droplets being captured by the first filter; and a plate mounted below the first filter for collection of the first spray such that the self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system is operative when cooking is taking place below the plate.

2. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, further comprising: a second spray outlet located in said air flow path after said first filter for providing a second cleaning spray onto a rear surface of said first filter.

3. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first spray outlet includes at least one nozzle for providing a fine spray, and a second spray outlet includes at least one further nozzle for providing a coarse spray.

4. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first filter and the second filter are in an exhaust hood.

5. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 4, wherein: the exhaust hood includes a top, a front wall, a rear wall and side walls extending between the rear wall and the front wall; and a baffle depending from the top and intermediate the front wall and the rear wall.

6. **(Currently Amended)** A self cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 5, wherein both the first and second filters are mountable to one of the front wall and the rear wall, and the baffle extends between the front wall and the rear wall.

7. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 5, ~~further comprising: a~~ wherein the plate extending extends forwardly from one of the front wall and the rear wall beyond the baffle.

8. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the plate has an upwardly directed projection extending between the baffle and the one of the front wall and the rear wall.

9. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 8, wherein the projection extends upwardly to a height at least as high as the mounting of the first filter to the baffle.

10. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 7, wherein the spray outlet is mounted on the plate.

11. **(Cancelled)**

12. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first filter is inclined with respect to the path, and covers the path.

13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first filter is at an angle of inclination to the path substantially the same as that of the second filter.

15. **(Cancelled)**

16. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim ~~[[1]]~~15, wherein the cleaning liquid comprises a cleaning solution that includes water and a degreaser in a ratio in the range 1:10 to 1:50.

17. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system including a first filter for filtering contaminants from an air flow along an air flow path, a first spray outlet for providing a fine, first spray of a cleaning solution into the air flow before the first filter to enable the fine, first spray to be drawn into the first filter by the air flow, wherein the fine, first spray has droplets sized to combine with droplets of the contaminant to form combined droplets in the air flow before the first filter to assist the combined droplets being captured by the first filter, and a plate ~~for preventing the~~ mounted below the first filter for collection of the fine, first spray from moving against the air flow such that the exhaust system is operable when cooking is taking place below the first plate.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the plate is mounted below the first filter and includes an upwardly directed projection at an end of the plate.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A method of removing at least one contaminant in ~~an~~ a kitchen exhaust system, comprising: providing a first spray into an air flow before a first filter, the first filter being mounted in a path of the air flow to enable the first spray to be drawn along the path onto the first filter; the first spray being able to

combine with droplets of the contaminant in the air flow before the first filter; ~~and the~~ first spray being able to coat the first filter to assist the first filter in capturing at least one droplet of the contaminant in the air; and a plate mounted below the first filter for collection of the first spray such that the self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system is operable when cooking is taking place below the first plate.

20. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim ~~47~~19, wherein the first spray is drawn along the path under the influence of the air flow, and the air flow causes at least a part of the first spray to pass through the first filter.

21. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim ~~46~~19, including providing a second spray into the air flow after the first filter.

22. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim ~~46~~19, wherein the second spray cleans a second filter in said airflow path after said first filter.

23. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim ~~46~~19, wherein there the second spray is for cleaning a rear surface of the first filter, and for being drawn under the influence of the airflow to clean a second filter in said airflow path after said first filter.

24. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claim ~~46~~19, wherein the first filter is a relatively coarse filter, the second filter is a relatively fine filter, the first spray is a relatively fine spray and the second spray is a relatively coarse spray.

25. **(Cancelled)**

26. **(Currently Amended)** A method as claimed in claim ~~46~~19, wherein the second spray substantially coats the second filter to assist the second filter in capturing at least one contaminant.

27-39 **(Cancelled)**

40. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plate forms a boundary for the air flow.

41. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plate mounted below the first filter collects combined droplets.

42. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the plate forms a boundary for the air flow.

43. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 17, wherein the plate mounted below the first filter collects combined droplets.

44. **(New)** A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the plate forms a boundary for the air flow.

45. **(New)** A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein the plate mounted below the first filter collects combined droplets.

46. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system, comprising: a first filter in a path for an air flow; a first spray outlet for providing a first spray into the air flow before the first filter to enable the first spray to be drawn toward the first filter; and a second filter in the path for the air flow downstream from the first filter; wherein the first spray has droplets sized to combine with a contaminant to form combined droplets in the air flow before the first filter, such that the combined droplets are captured by the first filter; a plate mounted below the first filter for collection of the first spray such that the self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system is operative when cooking is taking place below the plate; and a drain for draining fluid collected on the plate.

47. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 46, further comprising:

a second spray outlet located in said air flow path after said first filter for providing a second cleaning spray onto a rear surface of said first filter.

48. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 46, wherein the first filter is inclined with respect to the path of the air flow.

49. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 46, wherein the first spray is selected from a group consisting of water, and a mixture of water and a cleaning solution.

50. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 46, wherein the plate forms a boundary for the air flow.

51. **(New)** A method of removing at least one contaminant in a kitchen exhaust system, comprising: providing a first spray into an air flow before a first filter, mounting the first filter along a path of the air flow such that the first spray is drawn along the path of the air flow toward the first filter while combining with a contaminant to form combined droplets in the air flow before the first filter; mounting a plate below the first filter for collection of the first spray such that the self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system is operable when cooking is taking place below the first plate; and draining fluid collected on the plate.

52. **(New)** A method as claimed in claim 51, further comprising:  
providing a second spray into the air flow after the first filter.



53. **(New)** A method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the second spray is directed into said airflow path after said first filter.

54. **(New)** A method as claimed in claim 52, wherein the second spray is directed toward a rear surface of the first filter.

55. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system, comprising: a first filter in a path for an air flow and inclined with respect to the path for the air flow; a first spray outlet for providing a first spray into the air flow before the first filter to enable the first spray to be drawn toward the first filter; a second spray outlet located in said air flow path after said first filter for providing a second cleaning spray onto a rear surface of said first filter; and a second filter in the path for the air flow downstream from the first filter; wherein the first spray has droplets sized to combine with a contaminant to form combined droplets in the air flow before the first filter, such that the combined droplets are captured by the first filter; and a plate mounted below the first filter for collection of the first spray such that the self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system is operative when cooking is taking place below the plate.

56. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 55, wherein the first spray is selected from a group consisting of water, and a mixture of water and a cleaning solution.

Appl. No.: 10/524,309

Amendment Dated: March 18, 2008

Reply to Office Action of August 14, 2007

57. **(New)** A self-cleaning kitchen exhaust system as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first spray is selected from a group consisting of water, and a mixture of water and a cleaning solution.